

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE APPLICATION OF TILES TO WALLS AND LIKE SURFACES

(71) We PILKINGTON'S TILES LIMITED, a British Company, of Clifton Junction, Manchester, County of Lancaster, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to improvements in the application of ceramic tiles to walls and is an improvements in or modification of the invention described in the specification of our prior Patent No. 1094144 (26439/65).

Specification No. 1094144 claims a ceramic tile unit for application to a wall comprising a plurality of individual tiles affixed together to form the unit by flexible tapes applied to the backs of the tiles, each tape securing the corners of four adjacent tiles in the unit, with additional tapes to secure the corners of two tiles in the outer rows of tiles forming the unit.

Tile units as claimed in the parent Specification No. 1094144 with the tiles secured by tapes on the backs of the tiles provide a satisfactory unit but it has been found that by forming the tiles into units in a jig by applying cardboard strips or sheets to the faces of the tiles by the use of a peelable self adhesive tape or a two sided peelable self adhesive tape the cardboard strips or sheets can be removed from the tiles together with the tape after cement securing the tiles to wall has set.

According to the invention a ceramic tile unit for application to walls comprises a plurality of individual tiles spaced apart and assembled together in parallel longitudinal and transverse rows to form the unit, by flexible, peelable single or double sided adhesive tapes applied to a cardboard strip or sheet to extend over both the longitudinal and transverse edges of the face of the tiles in each row to space the tiles apart, each tape securing the corners of at least four adjacent tiles in the unit.

The invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing the application of a tile unit to a wall;

Fig. 2 is a plan view from above showing the faces of the individual tiles adhesively secured in spaced relationship by peelable adhesive tape and cardboard strip;

Fig. 3 is a similar view showing a cardboard sheet adhesively secured by the tapes to the faces of the tile unit.

The tiles in a jig are bonded together in spaced relationship in units A by peelable adhesive or peelable double-sided self adhesive tape to cardboard strips B or to a cardboard sheet B¹. The tapes are secured along the lines of adjacent edges of the tiles both longitudinally and transversely of the jig to temporarily secure the tiles as a unit during application to a wall each tape securing the corners of at least four adjacent tiles in the unit. The tapes and strips B or sheet B¹ are peeled off the surface of the tiles when the tiles have been bonded to the wall.

The advantage of sheeting tiles into units as hereinbefore described is that when the tiles are in the jig prior to sheeting the operator aligns the tile joints of the finished surface. A further advantage is that when the tile fixer places these sheets of tile units onto the surface to be tiled the cardboard is sufficiently rigid to hold the joints of the tiles in alignment and yet remains sufficiently flexible to take up any slight unevenness in the wall.

The rigid sheet of cardboard B¹ may be slightly smaller in area than the area of the tiles to allow for alignment of the joints when bonding the tile to the wall.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A ceramic tile unit for application to a wall comprising a plurality of individual tiles spaced apart and assembled together in parallel longitudinal and transverse rows to form the unit, by flexible, peelable single or double sided adhesive tapes applied to a cardboard

strip or sheet to extend over both the longitudinal and transverse edges of the face of the tiles in each row to space the tiles apart, each tape securing the corners of at least four adjacent tiles in the unit.

- 5 2. A ceramic tile as in Claim 1 in which the edges of the tiles extend beyond the ends of the strips or sheets.

3. A ceramic tile unit substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings. 10

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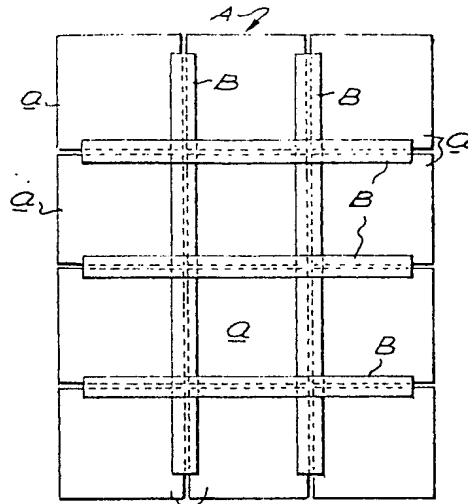


FIG. 2

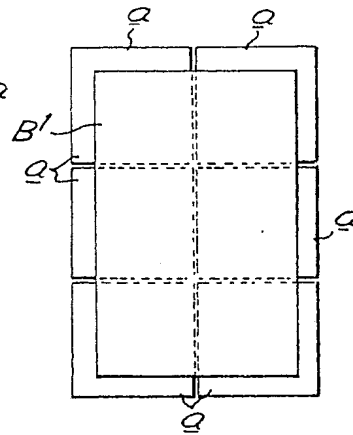


FIG. 3

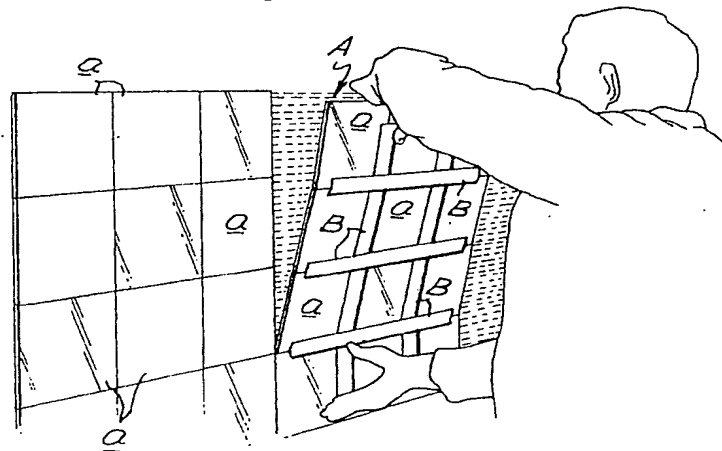


FIG. 1